

# Environmental Studies Certificate Program Course Catalogue Summer Term 2026

**Version: March 11, 2026**



Please register for courses as soon as possible. Do not wait until the very last day of the registration deadline, APRIL 7, 2026.

Please only register for courses that you plan to take and that fit your schedule. If you decide to withdraw from a course in which you are already enrolled, please let the instructor know and unenroll via LSF so that they can update your records and so that your spot can go to another student.

Whenever you email [envstudies@rcc.lmu.de](mailto:envstudies@rcc.lmu.de) about registering for a course, please include your MATRIKELNUMMER in your email.

When it's time to register for exams, please remember to always REGISTER FOR EXAMS VIA LSF (even if instructors keep separate lists or tell you otherwise).

**Content Areas**

**Module Titles**

effective as of October 2022

|  |   |  |   |   |   |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| <p><b>International and Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Environment and Society</b><br/>6 ECTS</p> | <p>P 1.1 Current Perspectives on Environment and Society (1)<br/>1 ECTS</p> | <p>P 2.1 New Fields of Research on Environment and Society (1)<br/>1 ECTS</p>  |   |   |   |  | <p><u>Mandatory</u><br/><br/>6 ECTS</p>                                  |  |
|  | <p>P 1.2 Reading Course: International Perspectives (2)<br/>2 ECTS</p>      | <p>P 2.2 Reading Course: Interdisciplinary Perspectives (2)<br/>2 ECTS</p>     |   |   |   |  |  |  |
| <p><b>Content Area 1: Humans in the Environment</b><br/>6 ECTS</p>                                   | <p>WP 1: Topics and Themes in Environment and Society</p>                   | <p>WP 3: Sociological Fields</p>   | <p>WP 15: Advanced Theory and Concepts in Historiography</p>  | <p>WP 17: Advanced Concepts and Theories</p>                            | <p>WP 30: Foundation Course: Historiography</p> | <p><u>Elective</u><br/><br/>Choose 3 out of 4<br/><br/>Get a total of 6 ECTS in each Content Area you elected<br/><br/>18 ECTS</p> |  |  |
|  | <p>WP 2: Environment and Comparative Literature</p>                         | <p>WP 4: Environmental Anthropology I</p>                                      | <p>WP 16: Environmental Anthropology II</p>   |   | <p>WP 31: Sociology and Society</p>             |  |  |  |
| <p><b>Content Area 2: Environmental Practice</b><br/>6 ECTS</p>                                      | <p>WP 5: Academic Practice in Environmental Studies</p>                     | <p>WP 18: Professional Practice in Environmental Studies</p>                   | <p>WP 32: Exploring Local Environmental Practices</p>   |   |   |  |  |  |
|  | <p>WP 6: Environmental Practice</p>   | <p>WP 19: International Collaboration in the Environmental Humanities</p>      |   |   |   |  |  |  |
| <p><b>Content Area 3: Environment and Responsibility</b><br/>6 ECTS</p>                              | <p>WP 7: Climate Change and Society</p>                                     | <p>WP 20: Transformations in the Anthropocene</p>                              | <p>WP 22: Public Policy</p>   | <p>WP 24: Methods in Communication Sciences</p>                         | <p>WP 33: Environments, Planning and Policy</p> |  |  |  |
|  | <p>WP 8: Foundation Course: Communication Science</p>                       | <p>WP 21: Environmental Ethics</p>   | <p>WP 23: Environmental Law and Governance</p>  | <p>WP 25: Sociology and Social Inequity</p>                             |   |  |  |  |
| <p><b>Content Area 4: Sustainability and Environmental Sciences</b><br/>6 ECTS</p>                   | <p>WP 9: Geographical Sustainability</p>                                    | <p>WP 11: Foundation Course: Organismic Biology</p>                            | <p>WP 13: Environmental Geobiology</p>  | <p>WP 26: Geographical Perspectives on Sustainability and Resources</p> | <p>WP 28: Field Exercise in Geology</p>         | <p>WP 34: Sustainability, Infrastructure and Technology</p>  | <p>WP 36: Natural Hazards</p>  |  |
|  | <p>WP 10: Marine Biology</p>  | <p>WP 12: Foundations Course: Ecology, Behavioral and Evolutionary Biology</p> | <p>WP 14: Global Change and the Earth System</p>  | <p>WP 27: Geological Foundations for Environment and Society</p>        | <p>WP 29: Soil-Plant-Atmosphere-Continuum</p>   | <p>WP 35: Theoretical and Applied Hydrology</p>  | <p>WP 37: Evolutionary Ecology</p>                                       |  |
| <p><b>Final Project</b><br/>9 ECTS</p>   | <p>WP 38: Thesis</p>  |  |  <p><b>Environmental Studies</b></p> |   |   |  | <p><u>Mandatory</u><br/><u>Choose</u><br/>1 out of 2<br/><br/>9 ECTS</p> |  |
|  | <p>WP 39: Creative Project</p>  |  |   |   |   |  |  |  |

---

## **P 1 Mandatory Module (Pflichtveranstaltung):** International and Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Environment and Society:

---

**Please register for both the Lunchtime Colloquium and the Reading Course via LSF.**

PROF. DR. SONJA DÜMPELMANN, DR. SPENCER ADAMS, DR. POOJA NAYAK

### **Lunchtime Colloquium: The Environmental Humanities - International Perspectives**

The Lunchtime Colloquium series consists of short, 20–30-minute presentations by RCC fellows. The talks are based on the fellow's own research. Designed to stimulate discussion, the presentations are accessible and are aimed at a non-specialist audience. All talks are free and open to the public. The talks may be of interest to undergraduate and graduate students, or to anyone with an interest in environmental issues.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 1 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Thursday, 12:00 - 13:45
- **Start date:** 16.04.2026 **End date:** 16.07.2026
- **Location:** Katholische Hochschulgemeinde (KHG) Leopoldstr. 11, 1. OG.
- **Work format:** Presentations
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 14693

DR. SUSANNE UNGER

### **Reading Course: International Perspectives, Part II**

The Reading Course makes up the second part of the basic mandatory module of the Certificate Program. It is designed to give an overview and serve as an introduction to the different fields and disciplines related to Environmental Studies. Students must attend this course over two semesters and are welcome to actively shape both structure and content. Lively discussions are the core of the course, based on weekly presentations by the course participants.

- **Language:** English
  - **ECTS:** 2 ECTS
  - **SWS:** 2 hours per week
  - **Dates:** Thursday, 14:15 -15:45
  - **Start date:** 16.04.2026 **End date:** 16.07.2026
  - **Location:** Katholische Hochschulgemeinde (KHG) Leopoldstr. 11, 1. OG.
  - **Work format:** Reading Course
  - **Registration period:** 31.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
  - **Belegnummer:** 14724
-

## Content Area 1: Humans in the Environment

---

### WP 2 Environment and Comparative Literature

DR. AMY MOHR

#### American Modernism

This course will focus on modernism and artistic communities, including representative works by the Lost Generation, authors of the Harlem Renaissance, and writers and artists in the American Southwest as well as the impact of regionalist authors and folklore studies within an international context.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Tuesday, 10:15 – 11:45
- **Start date:** 14.04.2026 **End date:** 14.07.2026
- **Location:** Eventroom S 106, Schellingstr. 3/ Front Building
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 13658

### WP 3 Sociological Fields

DR. GINA ATZENI

#### Kultursoziologie als allgemeine Soziologie

(Es) ist grundsätzlich daran zu erinnern, daß die soziale Wirklichkeit nun einmal Struktur und Kultur in stets ungeschiedener, nur analytisch trennbarer Einheit enthält. Alle Kultur ist in Strukturen eingelagert, alle Struktur durch Kultur erfüllt" (Tenbruck 1979, S. 399) Die Vorlesung widmet sich der klassischen soziologischen Fragestellung, wie soziale Ordnung möglich ist, indem sie verschiedene theoretische Angebote auf das Verhältnis von gesellschaftlichen Strukturen und Kultur hin befragt. Hierzu unternimmt sie zunächst eine (mögliche) Verortung der Soziologie als Wissenschaft, die sich nicht auf festem Grund bewegt und feste Formationen untersucht, sondern einen Gegenstand zu fassen versucht, der sich stets in Bewegung befindet. Dazu bietet sie einen Überblick über die Antworten, die einige wichtige (nicht: alle wichtigen) Autoren auf die Frage finden, wie das Unwahrscheinliche zum Selbstverständlichen, wie Kultur zu „Natur“ wird, wie gesellschaftliche Strukturen entstehen und sich verändern. Und schließlich verortet sie die Soziologie auch selbst in ihrer Rolle als Beobachterin und Katalysatorin der „nur analytisch trennbaren Einheit“ von Struktur und Kultur. Ziel der Vorlesung ist, Studierenden einen Überblick über soziologische Forschungsfragen und -befunde an der Schnittstelle der beiden Lebensbereiche und Systeme Familie und Arbeitsmarkt sowie wissenschaftliche Zugänge zu denselben zu bieten.

- **Language:** German
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Thursday, 10:15 – 11:45
- **Start date:** 16.04.2026 **End date:** 16.07.2026
- **Location:** Luisenstr. 37 (C) – C 006

- **Work format:** Seminar plus Lecture
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 15178 &15181

PROF. DR: CHRISTINA BOLL

### **Arbeitsmarkt und Familie: Aktuelle Befunde zu wechselseitigen Bezogenheiten von Handeln und Strukturen**

Gegenstand der Vorlesung und der zugehörigen Tafelübung sind Opportunitäten, Anreize und strukturelle Hemmnisse von Entscheidungen familialer Akteure. Diese werden anhand ausgewählter empirischer Evidenz für klassische familiäre Übergänge bzw. Erwerbsübergänge adressiert, wobei jeweils theoretische Fundierungen und empirische Analysemethoden erläutert und Daten- und Methodenlimitationen aufgezeigt werden. Wo möglich, werden Lebensverlaufsperspektiven eingenommen sowie Kohortenvergleiche, aber auch querschnittliche Vergleiche nach Regionen und Familiensubgruppen sowie nach Geschlecht vorgenommen. Dynamische Randbedingungen des Familien- und Erwerbslebens wie Digitalisierungsprozesse, politisch-rechtlicher Wandel, Wandel von Arbeitsmärkten, Wohnverhältnisse und Fachkräfteengpässe werden in ihren Handlungsbezügen diskutiert. Ziel der Vorlesung ist, Studierenden einen Überblick über soziologische Forschungsfragen und -befunde an der Schnittstelle der beiden Lebensbereiche und Systeme Familie und Arbeitsmarkt sowie wissenschaftliche Zugänge zu denselben zu bieten. Die Vorlesung verfolgt einen analytischen Ansatz und beruht in weiten Teilen auf Erkenntnissen, die mit den Methoden der empirischen Sozialforschung inkl. Statistik gewonnen wurden. Ein Teil der Texte setzt sich auch mit ökonomischen Modellen auseinander. Für das Modul sind keine Methodenkenntnisse nötig, aber die Bereitschaft, sich in Modelle hineinzudenken, wird vorausgesetzt.

- **Language:** German
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Tuesday, 10:15 – 11:45
- **Start date:** 14.04.2026 **End date:** 14.07.2026
- **Location:** Luisenstr. 37 (C) – C 006
- **Work format:** Seminar plus Lecture
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 15180 &15179

DR. STEFAN MAY

### **Einführung in die Sozialphilosophie und Soziologie des Rechts**

Die Einführungsvorlesung in die Sozialphilosophie und Soziologie des Rechts erarbeitet die genealogische Figur des modernen, positivierten Rechts in seinen sozialphilosophischen wie soziologischen Bezügen.

Die Vorlesung versteht sich als der Versuch, die spezifischen Charakteristika des modernen Rechts zu erarbeiten und zu diskutieren.

Die wöchentlichen Vorlesungen bauen aufeinander auf. Eine eigenständige Lektüre zur weiteren Vertiefung mittels der in der Vorlesung angegebenen Literatur wird empfohlen.

- **Language:** German
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Wednesday, 14:15 – 15:45
- **Start date:** 15.04.2026 **End date:** 15.07.2026
- **Location:** Geschw.-Scholl-Pl. 1 (M) - M 010

- **Work format:** Seminar plus Lecture
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 15176 & 15177

## **WP 15 Advanced Theory and Concepts in Historiography**

PROF. DR. CHRISTOF MAUCH

**Water Cities: Environmental Histories of New Orleans and Venice (Block Seminar)**

**Limited spots available. Email [envstudies@rcc.lmu.de](mailto:envstudies@rcc.lmu.de) if you want to participate. We'll forward a list of names to the instructor.**

When Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans in 2005, a BBC report called it a “Venice from Hell” and some observers advocated turning the streets of New Orleans permanently into Venetian type canals. In many ways, New Orleans with its European-style architecture and the proximity to water has much in common with Italy’s “Serenissima.” Water made both Venice and New Orleans. It has been both a blessing and a curse for the two “impossible cities”. The urban structures in both places are, it seems, too difficult to preserve and too beautiful to sacrifice. Both are economically dependent on tourism, and in danger of being loved to death by hordes of visitors and tourists. This seminar explores the challenging histories of New Orleans and Venice from an environmental perspective. Students will compare the relationship between humans and the natural environment from early modern times to the present and into the future. During their stay in Venice, they will learn to explore and “read” the natural environment of the lagoon and its challenges for culture, technology, and politics. Students will be staying at Studienhaus Schönwag from May 1-3, 2026 for a preparatory block seminar, and at Venice International University (on San Servolo Island) from May 17-23. Travel and accommodation will be covered by the Rachel Carson Center.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** block seminar
- **Dates:** May 1-3; May 17-23
- **Location:** Schönwag & Venice
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 13666

PROF. DR: Sonja Dümpelmann

**Collecting, Classifying, Conserving, Curating**

Much knowledge about human and more-than-human worlds has relied on collecting, classifying, and conserving specimens and artifacts. Besides forming large repositories, selected specimens and artifacts are also exhibited in different institutional and non-institutional contexts. For this purpose, they often become subject to various curatorial practices, and entire indoor and outdoor spaces have been designed to exhibit them. This seminar course will explore the practices and politics of collecting, classifying, conserving, and curating from contemporary and historic perspectives. What have these practices meant in the past, and what do they mean today? What purposes do humans pursue through these practices? What have been and what are their political implications? What does it mean to decolonize these practices, the collections they build upon, and the sites they create? We will be asking these and related questions, hear from several curators about their work, and we will visit some collections in Munich.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Tuesday, 14:00 – 16:30

- **Start date:** 14.04.2026 **End date:** 14.07.2026
- **Location:** RCC 415
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 14871

## WP 16 Environmental Anthropology II

PROF. DR: GERHILD PERL

### Migration und Grenzen: Ethnographische Perspektiven

Migration ist ein globales Phänomen, das sich besonders in lokalen Grenzregionen verdichtet. In diesem Kurs beschäftigen wir uns mit ethnographischen Forschungen zu Migration und Grenzen aus verschiedenen Weltregionen. Ziel ist es, zu verstehen, wie Migrationspolitiken und Grenzregime im Alltag von Migrant:innen, Grenzbeamt:innen, Aktivist:innen, lokalen Gemeinschaften sowie Forschenden wirksam werden. Dabei konzeptualisieren wir Grenzen nicht als fixe territoriale Linien, sondern als relationale, situative und umkämpfte soziale Ordnungen. Ein besonderer Fokus liegt auf restriktiven Migrations- und Grenzregimen, etwa im Zusammenhang mit Abschiebungen, Inhaftierungen, Tod und Verschwinden, aber auch auf Praktiken von Solidarität, Widerstand und Fürsorge. Neben ethnographischen Texten arbeiten wir mit multimodalen Zugängen zu Grenzen und Migration, darunter Filme, Fotografien, alternativer Kartografie, künstlerische Arbeiten und digitale Medien. Diese Materialien machen affektive, sensorische, visuelle und materielle Dimensionen von Grenzen sichtbar und erweitern textbasierte ethnographische Perspektiven.

- **Language:** German
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Tuesday, 14:15 – 15:45
- **Start date:** 14.04.2026 **End date:** 14.07.2026
- **Location:** Oettingenstr. 67 - 131
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 12381

DR: GHULAM HUSSAIN

### Caste, Race, and Class in South Asia

This course examines the interrelations of caste, race, and class in South Asia through historical, ethnographic, and theoretical perspectives. It explores how colonial governance, postcolonial state formations, religious ideologies, and global capitalism shape social hierarchies and inequality across the region. Through case studies from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, and Bangladesh, the course investigates how caste and class intersect with race, ethnicity, religion, and political identity in everyday social life, labor relations, and public discourse. Format: Seminar based on weekly readings and discussion of ethnographic and theoretical texts. Requirements include active participation, weekly reading notes, and a final written assignment.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Tuesday, 16:15 – 17:45
- **Start date:** 14.04.2026 **End date:** 14.07.2026
- **Location:** Oettingenstr. 67 - 033

- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 12380

## WP 17 Advanced Concepts and Theories

PROF. DR. UWE LÜBKEN

### Islands in Environmental Humanities

Why study islands – places that are often small, remote and seemingly insignificant? This course highlights the potential of island studies (nissology) for the field of environmental humanities. In the Western imagination, islands often have been, and still are, places of desire and colonial exploitation. They have been looked at as laboratories of environmental and social change long before they became the poster child of the effects of global warming. We will scrutinize the cultural representation of islands from colonial times to the present, analyze their military functions (military bases, nuclear testing sites), their place within cities (river islands), and explore them as sites of offshoring and externalizing taxes, leisure and waste.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 SWS
- **Dates:** Thursday, 10:15-11:45
- **Start Date:** 16.04.2026 **End date:** 16.07.2026
- **Location:** Leopoldstr. 11 A-B - 415
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 14705

PROF. DR. UWE LÜBKEN

### Environmental Change, Migration and Displacement

Climate change–driven global warming, sea-level rise, and increasingly frequent droughts and floods are already prompting the movement of millions of people. This seminar examines the concepts and terms used to understand environmentally induced migration and displacement, often described as “climate migration.” It also considers historical precedents and asks whether it is meaningful to speak of “histories of the unprecedented.”

The course focuses on the different forms of climate-related migration and the motivations behind them. Topics include place attachment and place dependence, resettlement schemes, the urban dimensions of environmental migration, the figure of the “climate migrant,” and the role of insurance in managing environmental risks.

Students will analyze case studies from various hazardscapes, including, but not limited to, the Bay of Bengal, small island states in the South Pacific, the North Sea coast, and North America.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 SWS
- **Dates:** Monday, 14:15-15:45
- **Start Date:** 13.04.2026 **End date:** 13.07.2026
- **Location:** Leopoldstr. 11 A-B - 415
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 14994

---

## Content Area 2: Environmental Practice

---

Compared to the other three content areas, CA 2 offers the fewest module options. If you choose to complete CA 2, we recommend pairing the TD with either an internship (in Germany or abroad) or an extended excursion, such as WP 32. Please note that excursions are not available every semester and often have only limited spots for certificate students.

### WP 5 Academic Practice in Environmental Studies

ANNIKA STANTZOK, PROF. DR. CHRISTOF MAUCH

#### Tuesday Discussion

This course introduces students to a wide variety of fields, both academic and beyond, in which environmental practitioners are active. Each session will provide participants with the opportunity to meet speakers who function as heads of environmental foundations, as members of environmental research institutions, green businesses, environmental non-governmental organizations (ENGOs), or as representatives of the Ministry of Environment. The course is discussion-based and requires students to actively participate in each class. International fellows and staff from the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society will also be invited to join the discussion with the students.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Tuesday, 16:30- 17:30
- **Start Date:** 14.04.2026 **End date:** 14.07.2026
- **Location:** RCC, Leopoldstraße 11a, Room 415
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** not yet available, check LSF for updates

---

### WP 6 Environmental Practice

DR. SUSANNE UNGER

#### Internship

Students have the opportunity to complete an internship in an environmentally relevant field any semester and can earn 3 ECTS credits for it. As an assessment requirement, a report of 8,000 to a maximum of 12,000 characters must be submitted at the end of the internship.

If you are interested in earning credit for an internship, please contact [envstudies@rcc.lmu.de](mailto:envstudies@rcc.lmu.de) in advance to discuss the scope and objectives.

---

### WP 32 Exploring Local Environmental Practices

DR. JONATAN PALMPLAD

#### Preservation and Pollution in the Rhône Delta – Seminar incl. Excursion

This course and field trip will examine the parallel histories of two spaces in the Rhône Delta, both shaped in the same era but embodying starkly contrasting logics: the Camargue, established as a natural reserve, and Fos-sur-Mer, developed into an intensive industrial zone. These sites, born of deliberate planning and policy illustrate the construction of a divide between preserved and polluted landscapes. The course draws on archives and oral histories. This case study will highlight the tensions, exchanges, and paradoxes linking these contrasting spaces, while also addressing the contemporary legacies and challenges of this divide.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2h per week
- **Dates:** 11 &12 July, 09:00-18:00 (tbc), at the RCC, Fieldtrip: 14-18 September  
(transportation, accommodation and some meals will be paid for by the RCC)
- **Location:** RCC and Arles, France
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 14966

---

## Content Area 3: Environment and Responsibility

---

### WP 7 Climate Change and Society

PROF: DR: UWE LÜBKEN

#### Rivers Through Time: Nature, Culture, and Society

Rivers are not only physical waterways but also cultural, political, and historical forces that shape human societies and ecosystems. They formed the backbone of early civilizations such as ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia, and for centuries many settlements depended on access to rivers for navigation, drinking water, and the disposal of waste, particularly before the rise of the railroads transformed transportation networks. At the same time, rivers have always been dynamic and unpredictable forces, bringing both life and danger through floods and droughts.

Over the past two centuries, many rivers have been dramatically transformed through damming, channelization, industrial use, and pollution. Today, growing restoration efforts seek to recover ecological functions and reimagine more sustainable relationships between societies and rivers.

Beyond their material importance, rivers also hold rich cultural meanings. They appear in myths and religions as river gods, and they flow through films, novels, and songs that reflect how societies understand and relate to waterways. In recent years, new debates have even emerged around the idea that rivers themselves might possess legal rights. This seminar traces the meandering course of rivers through time and space across different regions of the world.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Monday, 14:15 – 15:45
- **Start date:** 13.04.2026      **End date:** 13.07.2026
- **Location:** Leopoldstr. 11 A-B - 415
- **Work format:** Lecture
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026      **until** 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 14822

PROF. DR. SONJA DÜMPELMANN

#### Plant(s) Matter

In a variety of ways, plants sustain life on earth. In their myriad forms, shapes, colors, and sizes they are a fundamental component of most landscapes and built environments, regardless of how much or how little these landscapes are impacted and shaped by human hands. However, despite plants' fundamental roles for human survival on earth, they have often been overlooked or neglected. Today's concerns about global warming, climate justice, as well as social and environmental justice more generally show that it is high time to reconsider plants' manifold values and agencies. "Critical plant studies" and the "plant humanities" are two recently constituted fields pursuing this objective, assembling scholarship that draws attention to the importance of plants in human life worlds. In this course we will address what has been called "plant blindness" by studying plant histories and histories and stories that have centered plants; by exploring the strengths and weaknesses often associated with plants, and by shedding light on how politics have guided plant use for benign and malevolent purposes. Lectures, seminar discussions, field trips, and visits to special plant and book collections will shed light on plants' uses and roles in our landscape, environmental, and cultural histories to enlighten the present and suggest future possibilities of thinking about and with plants. The course will be accompanied by readings in history and theory; you will contribute to a course blog and work on a research paper or mixed-media project related to the course content that will be presented in class.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 SWS
- **Dates:** Tuesday, 09:00-11:30
- **Start Date:** 14.04.2026 **End date:** 14.07.2026
- **Location:** Leopoldstr. 11 A-B - 415
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 14707

DR: MASCHA GUGGANING

**Seminar: What is sustained in sustainability? Thinking across science and society**

In the face of accelerating ecological and social consequences of climate change, 'sustainability' and 'sustainable development' have become core issues in scientific research and policy. Indeed, over the past decades, sustainability – such as in the Strategic Development Goals (SDG) – has become a buzzword in public and scientific discourse. However, not everything that is labelled 'sustainable' is sustainable, making it difficult to distinguish, for example, corporate 'greenwashing' from genuine concern for the environment. The urgent need to mitigate climate change and protect the environment has also led scholars to realize the social and political dimensions of environmental problems, including gender, race and class.

This Master's course introduces students to fundamental debates and conceptual approaches to sustainability and environmental concerns through a critical perspective asking: What is sustainability, and how has its meaning changed over time? What is the political dimension of sustainability, meaning, who decides what is sustained, how, and for whom? And how can a critical lens add to more robust conceptions of sustainability? We will explore these questions through concepts and theories in Science and Technology Studies (STS), Environmental Humanities, and Sustainability Studies and apply them to case studies from environmental stewardship, policy and beyond. The seminar will be divided into three parts. First, students will be introduced to social science and humanities perspectives on the scientific study of nature and the environment. The second part focuses on research on the origin, the 'who' and 'how' of sustainable practices, e.g., in conservation practices, policy and grassroots movements. Finally, we consider the future of sustainable development, and possible alternative approaches, leading us to rethink sustainability. implementation.

Learning outcomes:

This course will provide the following learning outcomes by covering these areas:

Reflect on how scientific ways of knowing shape our understanding of nature

Gain a critical understanding of the shifting meanings of sustainability and sustainable development over time

Reflect on how environmental issues are intertwined with social and political issues around gender, race and class

Evaluate different approaches to sustainable practices and sustainable development

Incorporate findings from class to rethink existing sustainability strategies.

Expectations

**This course/block seminar is heavy in reading/preparation/discussion for the weekly meetings. Please only commit to taking this course if you can attend all meetings and intend to dedicate sufficient time preparing for them.**

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 SWS
- **Dates:** Wednesday, 17:00-20:00
- **Start Date:** 29.04.2026 **End date:** 10.06.2026

- **Location:** Großhad. Str. 4 (E) - E 02.023
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 19213

## WP 21 Environmental Ethics

UNIV. PROF. DR. MARKUS VOGT

**Umweltethik. Reflexionen zum Mensch-Natur-Verhältnis im Anthropozän (Lecture)**

Klimawandel, Biodiversitätsverlust und Kippunkte im globalen Wasserhaushalt sind Indizien für ein neue erdgeschichtliche Epoche, in der der Mensch zum „Ingenieur des Erdsystems“ geworden ist. Politik, Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft sind mit der nötigen „Großen Transformation“ im Anspruch der 2015 beschlossenen „Sustainable Development Goals“ radikal überfordert. So brechen Grundsatzdebatten über das Naturverhältnis der „expansiven Moderne“, ökologische, globale und intergenerationelle Gerechtigkeit sowie den Stellenwert kosmopolitischer Ideale angesichts verschärfter Verteilungskämpfe auf. Auch die Religionen und Kirchen sind herausgefordert, ihr Naturverhältnis zu überdenken. Mit „Laudato si“, der ersten Umweltenzyklika (2015), und „Laudate Dominum“, dem Apostolischen Schreiben zum Klimawandel (2023), hat sich die katholische Kirche intensiv in die Debatte eingemischt.

Gegenstand der Vorlesung sind u.a.: Diagnosen zur ökologischen Lage der Welt; die neue erdgeschichtliche Epoche des „Anthropozän“: empirische Grundlagen und philosophische Kritik; Begründungsmodelle der Umweltethik; die normative Logik der Nachhaltigkeit und die häufigsten moraltheoretischen Kurzschlüsse der Debatte; Resilienz und Risikoethik; Humanökologie und Schöpfungsspiritualität in „Laudato si“; interreligiöse Perspektiven einer „Ökotheologie“; Tierethik; Postwachstumsgesellschaft und Handlungsmodelle für eine postfossile Gesellschaft; Bioökonomie und Ethik der Innovation; nachhaltige Konsum- und Lebensstile in liberalen Gesellschaften, Bildung für Nachhaltigkeit; „transformative Wissenschaft“; Fridays4Future aus sozialetischer Sicht; Kontroversen um die deutsche Energiewende.

- **Language:** German
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Wednesday, 10:15 – 11:45
- **Start date:** 15.04.2026 **End date:** 15.07.2026
- **Location:** Geschw.-Scholl-Pl. 1 (D) - M 105
- **Work format:** Lecture
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 01066

## WP 22 Public Policy

DR. FRANCESCO FINDEISEN

**Public policy view through its instruments: formulation, implementation, and effects**

Public policy is operationalized through instruments. As societal challenges multiply and policy stocks grow more complex, instrument choices become more consequential for both implementation and its effects. These can drive urgently needed transformations—such as climate action or addressing housing crises—but they can also lead to failures and reinforce existing power asymmetries or inequalities. This seminar examines public policy through the formulation and implementation of policy instruments and their effects across OECD countries, policy sectors, and levels of government. It analytically distinguishes

between the selection and design of instruments, which tends to take place at national and supranational levels, and their implementation, which increasingly unfolds at subnational levels with private and civil society participation. Students will critically engage with central questions: how and why are instruments selected and designed, what objectives do they pursue, how are they implemented, and what effects do these choices have on policy effectiveness, public administration, and society?

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 6 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2h per week
- **Dates:** Wednesday, 08:15– 09:45
- **Start date:** 15.04.2026      **End date:** 15.07.2026
- **Location:** Oettingenstr. 67, Room 057
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026                      **until** 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 15057

## WP 24 Methods in Communication Science

The following 2 courses are **only** being offered as a bundle. You need to take both courses to earn credit for the module.

UNIV. PROF. DR. ANNA KÜMPEL

### Medienwirkungsforschung

Die Vorlesung führt in zentrale Ansätze und Theorien der Medienwirkungsforschung ein. Dabei geht es nicht primär um die Frage, ob Medien wirken, sondern wie und unter welchen Bedingungen sie dies tun. Entsprechend werden neben zentralen Ansätzen und Theorien zur Medienwirkung auch ausgewählte Aspekte von Mediennutzung und Informationsverarbeitung in den Blick genommen. Die Studierenden erhalten nicht nur einen Überblick über die „Klassiker“ der Medienwirkungsforschung, sondern auch darüber, ob und inwiefern die entsprechenden Ansätze und Theorien auch in modernen (digitalen) Medienumgebungen noch Bestand haben.

- **Language:** German
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Thursday, 10:15 - 11:45
- **Start date:** 16.04.2026                                      **End date:** 16.07.2026
- **Location:** Oettingenstr. 67 (B) - B 001
- **Work format:** Lecture
- **Registration:** Email [envstudies@rcc.lmu.de](mailto:envstudies@rcc.lmu.de) by March 16 to register.  
We'll then forward a list of names to the instructor.
- **Belegnummer:** 15333

PROF: DR. CONSTANZE ROSSMANN

### Gesundheitskommunikation

Angesichts gesellschaftlicher, demografischer und gesundheitspolitischer Entwicklungen, der Verbreitung gesundheitsschädlicher Lebensstile und der zunehmenden Bedrohungen durch Klimawandel und Pandemien zählen Gesundheitsförderung und Krankheitsprävention zu den größten Herausforderungen moderner Gesellschaften. Entsprechend hat auch die Kommunikation über Gesundheit und Krankheit – nicht zuletzt als Forschungsfeld der Kommunikationswissenschaft – zunehmend an Bedeutung gewonnen.

Das Forschungsfeld der Gesundheitskommunikation setzt sich mit Aspekten wie Erklärung von Gesundheitsverhalten, Darstellung von Gesundheitsthemen in den Medien, Einfluss von Medien auf Gesundheitsverhalten, Wirksamkeit von Gesundheitskampagnen oder spezifischen Appellformen sowie Bedeutung von Online-Gesundheitsinformationen und Gesundheits-Apps auseinander. Die Vorlesung widmet sich ebendiesen Themen und vermittelt Theorien, Modelle und aktuelle Befunde rund um die Bedeutung von Kommunikation für Gesundheit und Krankheit

- **Language:** German
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Tuesday, 16:15 - 17:45
- **Start date:** 14.04.2026 **End date:** 14.07.2026
- **Location:** Oettingenstr. 67 (B) - B 001
- **Work format:** Seminar
- **Registration period:** Email [envstudies@rcc.lmu.de](mailto:envstudies@rcc.lmu.de) by March 16 to register.  
We'll then forward a list of names to the instructor.
- **Belegnummer:** 15361

## WP 25 Sociology and Social Inequity

The following 2 courses are **only** offered as a bundle. You need to take both courses to earn credit for the module.

Das Modul bietet einen Überblick über theoretische Ansätze zur Erklärung sowie über empirische Herangehensweisen zur Erforschung von Strukturen und Dynamiken sozialer Ungleichheit. In den Veranstaltungen werden verschiedene Dimensionen sozialer Ungleichheit berücksichtigt. Auch Fragen des internationalen Vergleichs und der globalen Ungleichheit werden behandelt. Es werden auch mögliche Ansätze zum Abbau von sozialen Ungleichheiten diskutiert. Das Modul besteht aus je einer Vorlesung von Prof. Pfeffer und Prof. Brüderl. In die jeweilige Vorlesung sind Übungen eingebaut. Zugleich gibt es punktuell gemeinsame Veranstaltungen um die beiden Teile zu integrieren.

PROF. DR. JOSEF BRÜDERL

**Soziale Ungleichheit (Vorlesung)**

- **Language:** German
- **ECTS:** 4 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Wednesday, 8:15 – 09:45
- **Start date:** 15.04.2026 **End date:** 15.07.2026
- **Location:** Geschw.-Scholl-Pl. 1 (B) - B 006
- **Work format:** Lecture
- **Registration period:** Email [envstudies@rcc.lmu.de](mailto:envstudies@rcc.lmu.de) by March 16 to register.  
We'll then forward a list of names to the instructor.
- **Belegnummer:** 15227

PROF. DR. FABIAN PFEFFER

**Soziale Ungleichheit (Übung)**

- **Language:** German
- **ECTS:** 2 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Mondays, 10:15 - 11:45

- **Start date:** 27.04.2026, please check LSF for updates or corrections
- End date:** 13.07.2026
- **Location:** Geschw.-Scholl-Pl. 1 (B) - B 006
- **Work format:** Tutorial
- **Registration period:** Email [envstudies@rcc.lmu.de](mailto:envstudies@rcc.lmu.de) by March 16 to register.  
We'll then forward a list of names to the instructor.
- **Belegnummer:** 15228

## Content Area 4: Sustainability and Environmental Sciences

### WP 26 Geographical Perspectives on Sustainability and Resources

UNIV. PROF. DR. GORDON WINDER/UNIV. PROF. DR. HENRIKE RAU/UNIV. PROF. DR. MATTHIAS GARSCHAGEN/ UNIV. PROF. DR. JOHANNES GLÜCKLER

#### **Sustainable Management of Resources (Lecture)**

This module is intended to look into key themes related to Geography and Sustainability. In particular, issues related to resources, such as resource scarcity of water, energy, phosphorous will be studied in relation to land use. A multi- and interdisciplinary perspective is taken to look into these themes. In particular, the following themes will be presented and elaborated upon:

- Sustainable water management
- Sustainable energy management
- Sustainable land use
- Sustainable nutrient management

A special focus will be set on the analysis of socio-economic aspects of sustainability.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Thursday, 14:15 – 15:45
- **Start date:** 16.04.2026                      **End date:** 16.07.2026
- **Location:** TBD
- **Work format:** Lecture
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026                      **until** 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 14816
- **Registration period:** Email [envstudies@rcc.lmu.de](mailto:envstudies@rcc.lmu.de) by March 16 to register.  
We'll then forward a list of names to the instructor.

### WP 27 Geological Foundations for Environment and Society

PROF. DR. ANKE FRIEDRICH

**Disciplinary Perspective: Geological Foundations for Environment and Society**

**IF YOU ARE THINKING ABOUT TAKING THIS COURSE, PLEASE EMAIL [ENVSTUDIES@RCC.LMU.DE](mailto:ENVSTUDIES@RCC.LMU.DE) FOR SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION!!!**

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Tuesday, 14:15 – 15:45
- **Start date:** 14.04.2026                      **End date:** 14.07.2026
- **Location:** Luisenstr. 37 (C) - C 006
- **Work format:** Lecture
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026                      **until** 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 20368
- **Registration period:** Email [envstudies@rcc.lmu.de](mailto:envstudies@rcc.lmu.de) by March 16 to register.  
We'll then forward a list of names to the instructor.

## WP 29 Soil-Plant-Atmosphere-Continuum

DR. IOANNIS MOUSTAKIS, BEIYAO XU  
**Boden-Pflanze-Atmosphäre-Kontinuum** (Lecture)

The module consists of the lecture "*Soil-Plant-Atmosphere Continuum*" with the following content:

- Soil hydraulic and chemical properties: retention curve, saturated and unsaturated hydraulic conductivity, cation exchange capacity (CEC), retardation.
- Richards equation, convection-dispersion equation, heat transport equation.
- Radiation and energy balance at the (Earth's) surface, equations of motion, characteristics of near-surface turbulence.
- Experimental determination and modeling of energy and mass balance in the atmospheric boundary layer.
- Photosynthesis: influencing factors, C3-C4-CAM metabolisms, water and carbon balance of plants and ecosystems.
- Plant growth and ecosystem models.
- Global biogeochemical cycles.
- Soil physics, plant ecology, and micrometeorological measurement techniques.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 3 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours per week
- **Dates:** Tuesday, 14:15 – 15:45
- **Start date:** 21.04.2026                      **End date:** 14.07.2026
- **Location:** check LSF for updates
- **Work format:** Lecture
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026                      **until** 07.04.2026
- **Belegnummer:** 14717

**Please note:** You can only earn 3 ECTS in this seminar and you need a total of 6 ECTS to complete Content Area 4. We therefore recommend that you attend another seminar that's also worth 3 ECTS during the summer semester or the upcoming winter semester in Content Area 4, thus allowing you to complete the content area.

## WP 37 Evolutionary Ecology

KADEREIT, GUDRUN; ZERDONER CALASAN, ANZE  
**Plant Adaption to extreme environments** (Lecture)

Whole-day seminar (9:00 -17:00 h); date by arrangement.

Each student will present and discuss a publication on plant adaptation to one or more environmental stressors.

- Language: English
- ECTS: 3 ECTS
- SWS: 2 hours per week
- Dates: **Tues, Wed, Thurs 09:00 - 17:00**
- Start date: **05.05.2026** End date: **07.05.2026**
- Location: Botanical Institute, Menzinger Str. 67, 80638 Munich
- Work format: Seminar
- Registration period: 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- Belegnummer: 19089

PROF. DR. WOLFGANG FRANK

### **Challenges and strategies for plant growth during climate change**

The seminar will focus on different topics caused by the anthropogenic climate change (ACC) that may include: habitat change, invasion of plants, expected impact of ACC for feeding the world's population, ACC and multifactorial stress combinations, transgenic plants with enhanced biotic and abiotic stress tolerance, complex change of traits. Participants will select recent research papers that cover specific aspects of the ACC and will present the paper in the seminar.

Learning outcomes:

The students will be able to communicate and to present the content of a recent scientific report or publication in a clear and unambiguous manner and to exchange information and general ideas on a scientific level with fellow students and experts in Plant Sciences.

- Language: English
- ECTS: 3 ECTS
- SWS: 2 hours per week
- Dates: Wednesday 08:30-10:00
- Start date: 15.04.2026 End date: 15.07.2026
- Location: Großhad. Str. 2 (C) - C 00.013
- Work format: Seminar
- Registration period: 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- Belegnummer: 19179

**Preliminary Meeting: Wednesday 9 a.m.**

PROF. G. KADEREIT

### **Übung zur Artenvielfalt Botanik (Bestimmungsübungen an mitteleuropäischen Gefäßpflanzen) mit Exkursionen**

- Language: German
- ECTS: 3 ECTS
- SWS: 3 hours per week
- Dates: Tuesday 14:30-15:15 (Lecture) and 15:30-18:30 (Lab)
- Start date: 14.04.2026 End date: 14.07.2026
- Location: Großer Hörsaal and Kurssäle 1 - 3, 1, Menzinger Str. 67, 80638 München)
- Work format: Lecture and Lab
- Registration period: 23.03.2026 until 07.04.2026
- Belegnummer: 19170

### **Kursprogramm:**

1. Kurstag, Die, 14. April 2026 - Morphologische Grundlagen
2. Kurstag, Die, 21. April 2026 - Lamiaceae, Boraginaceae
3. Kurstag, Die, 28. April 2026 - Ranunculaceae, Rosaceae
4. Kurstag, Die, 05. Mai 2026 - Brassicaceae, Fabaceae
5. Kurstag, Die, 12. Mai 2026 - Caryophyllaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Geraniaceae
6. Kurstag, Die, 19. Mai 2026 - Cyperaceae, Poaceae, Orchidaceae
26. Mai 2026 - Pfingsten - kein Kurs
7. Kurstag, Die, 02. Juni 2026 - ganztägige Exkursion, Voralpenland
8. Kurstag, Die, 09. Juni 2026 - Campanulaceae, Orobanchaceae, Plantaginaceae, Scrophulariaceae
9. Kurstag, Die, 16. Juni 2026 - Farne, Bäume, Sträucher
10. Kurstag, Die, 23. Juni 2026 - Apiaceae, Rubiaceae
11. Kurstag, Die, 30. Juni 2026 - Asteraceae, Chenopodiaceae, Amaranthaceae
12. Kurstag, Die, 07. Juli 2026 - Exkursion, ganztags (Alpen)
13. Kurstag, Die, 14. Juli 2026 - 15:00 Uhr Praktische Prüfung

Termine für die Wiederholung der Praktischen Prüfung und die Klausur werden noch bekanntgegeben.

### **Leistungsnachweise:**

**Exkursionen und Artenliste:** Insgesamt müssen mindestens 2 Exkursionstage absolviert werden. Diese können sich aus Ganztagesexkursionen und/oder Halbtagesexkursionen zusammensetzen. Ein Termin für die Ganztagesexkursion im regulären Kursprogramm ist der 02. Juni 2026 und der 07. Juli 2026. Termine für die Halbtagesexkursionen werden individuell über Aushänge angeboten.

Als Ergebnis der Exkursionen muss jeder Teilnehmer / jede Teilnehmerin am 14. Juli 2026 eine Liste mit 111 auf den Exkursionen beobachteten Pflanzen (keine Listenpflanzen) abgeben.

**Praktische Prüfung:** Bei der praktischen Prüfung ist die Aufgabe vier der 111 Listenpflanzen ohne Bestimmungsliteratur oder Bestimmungs-App zu erkennen. Außerdem sollen 2 Arten mit dem Bestimmungsbuch Schmeil-Fitschen bestimmt werden.

Klausur: In der Klausur werden die Inhalte der Vorlesung geprüft.

Klausur im Großen Hörsaal des Botanischen Institutes, Menzinger Str. 67, München Nymphenburg

Alle Teilnehmer/Teilnehmerinnen am Praktikum sind zur Klausur automatisch angemeldet, Wiederholer/Wiederholerinnen aus den letzten Jahren bitte bei Eva Facher, [e.facher@lrz.uni-muenchen.de](mailto:e.facher@lrz.uni-muenchen.de), anmelden. **Remember that you will still have to register for the exam via LSF!**

---

## **WP38/39 Final Project Colloquium**

DR. SUSANNE UNGER

**Final Project Colloquium** (Workshop)

If you plan to finish your final project this semester, please register for the mandatory colloquium and email Susanne Unger as well. You need to attend at least one meeting during the semester during which you'll present and receive feedback on your final project idea. Meeting dates will be announced later to accommodate everyone's schedules.

- **Language:** English
- **ECTS:** 1 ECTS
- **SWS:** 2 hours
- **Dates:** TBD
- **Location:** Leopoldstr. 11 A-B - 415
- **Work format:** Workshop
- **Registration period:** 23.03.2026 **until 07.04.2026**
- **Belegnummer:** 15755